

Sent via email: sprusak@cityofmadison.com

Date: April 4, 2019

To: Plan Commission, April 8, 2019 mtg. item #1

Cc: Sydney Prusak, Planning; Ald. Skidmore, Dist.#9; Lori Zunker, TTCSA Property Manager; Jim Stein, President, Jewish Burial Assoc. of Madison (JBAM)

From: Tamarack Trails Community Services Assoc. (TTCSA) Board of Directors, Jean MacCubbin, President

Re: **Letter of Support with Concerns -- JBAM Plans for Driveway Construction in Sunset Memory Gardens, south border of TTCSA**

**Process:** On **Dec. 20, 2018** Jean MacCubbin, TTCSA President was contacted by JBAM that this project was being planned. After the holidays, an informational meeting was held on **Jan. 3, 2019**, at which time JBAM shared details of their driveway project. Invitees to that meeting included TTCSA Board members and various TTCSA Committee Chairs (Garden, Maintenance and Architectural Review Board) as well as our Grounds Superintendent and representatives of JBAM. At this meeting an overview of the JBAM project was presented, their communications with Stonemor, owners of Sunset Memory Gardens, as well as the engineering work conducted by Edge. Various concerns by TTCSA were raised and hence on-going communication developed. This meeting gave us the opportunity to get our arms around the details and fully consider impacts at our southern boundary.

By **Jan. 12, 2019** TTCSA notified only Tree Ln residents of JBAM plans and a meeting was later scheduled inviting all TTCSA property owners via email on **Jan. 17, 2019**; this all TTCSA meeting was held **Jan. 28, 2019**.

In this same period, as we understand, JBAM continued to meet with City staff and Ald. Skidmore on water issues and process, namely types of approvals necessary for you to move forward on this project and re-engineering of the handling of stormwater on and off the site and that the project moving forward as a minor alteration to an existing conditional use. At this second meeting, we voiced our appreciation of the major changes regarding water issues, containment and reduced flow into TTCSA properties. As you know, this has been an on-going issue with Sunset Memorial Gardens cemetery and these revised plans appear to be beneficial to handling runoff near some of our living units.

At the TTCSA Board Meeting of **2019 February 26**, we learned from Tree Ln residents that this proposed project would now be considered a conditional use at the Plan Comm. of April 8.

**Items Negotiated and Considered:** In the period from Jan. 3 to the all resident meeting on Jan. 28, TTCSA shared concerns of which JBAM negotiated or considered. These included:

1. Vegetative barrier and tree removal—
  - a. With respect to the planned vegetation along the TT gardens, We hope we can discuss alternatives that may meet our garden boundary plan and your budget, so that what may become a 'tall, full line of arbs', doesn't shade the garden area.
  - b. Regarding species selection, thank you for considering another species option which is faster growing and still meets the privacy concerns of adjacent property owners. We have since learned that the mature canopy of this optional species will not work due to the width area for plantings and driveway overhang.
  - c. Again, we expect Angie Swan, Grounds Superintendent to inventory our trees with respect to tree life after a proposed 12-ft. pruning and possible root impacts from driveway construction.

2. Overland flow/stormwater runoff-- The initial design directed flow from the driveway 'gutter' to an existing outlet between building 3&4; this issue was subsequently redesigned to provide infiltration with

an overflow outlet and Edge Engr. calculations predict less water from this site would be directed toward the nearby residences.

**Items Outstanding/On-going Collaboration:**

1. Communication—We'd like to provide updates of your plans going forward, as well as changes, timelines, etc. either at the monthly TT Board meeting or Good Life newsletter, or both. We could work with your group on this.
2. Access—The addition of a gate has certainly helped reduce some resident concerns about after hour, or possible night time use of the driveway; thank you for investigating this possibility before our all resident meeting. We realize requesting a second gate at another entry point is more the responsibility of the cemetery and We would be willing to meet with you and the cemetery to discuss these concerns, if needed.
3. Border Inventory and Assessment—As noted previously our Grounds Superintendent's concerns about the health of some of the tree stock along our border which may reduce the life either through major pruning or root impacts from driveway construction. We suggest that we keep her, Angie Swan, and your engineer in contact so that TTSCA knows of issues as they arise. Our communication about any changes will be of interest to adjacent property owners.

Again, we understand that this work will begin Spring 2019; we look forward to continuing communications and obtaining any final plans you can share to the TTCSA Board and its residents.

**In summary, please accept this communication as a Letter of Support for this project and we look forward to on-going communications with JBAM as the timing of the project begins.**